

4. Build Function

From the home page of Fig. 6, the user can invoke the Build Function by clicking on the Create New Content button 526.

Fig. 4A and 4B are embodiments of representative flow diagrams

of the process of building course content using the system and

method. As shown in Fig 4A, after accessing the home page

(step 120) and based on the results of a search, the user can

decide to reuse preexisting course content (step 122). If the

user decides to reuse preexisting course content, he can select

and upload that course content (step 124). The user can

continue building course content (step 126) or he may exit the

process (step 162). If the user decides to continue building

course content (step 126) or he does not want to use preexisting

course content (step 122), he can create course content.

As an initial step in creating course content the user can create a scope document and/or an outline of the content

that the user would like to create. The system and method can

provide a scope document page and work pad which are used to

capture background information for building a course. For

example, the scope page can be used to record information

including a course overview, course objectives and the intended

audience. On the scope page, the author can organize his

thoughts and ideas for the course. The work pad can be used

more like a "scratch pad" for the author. The author can use this area to generate ideas for a course outline or to store a course file information and to jot down various notes and reminders.

5 The user then creates a Course Page (step 130 in Fig. 4A). The Course Page is used to record certain information when creating a new course. Fig. 9 is a embodiment of a representative Course Page screen display 600. As shown in Fig. 9, the Course Page can include, for example, course name 602, keywords that can be used for searching 604 and a brief course description 606. In addition, administrative information may be viewed and entered by clicking on 608. This may include the owner, business unit, author, date of creation, the last person that modified the document and the date of the last modification and is stored as part of the Course Page.

 Creating a Course Page also may include selecting a template to be use as part of a course. Fig. 10 is an embodiment of a representative Course Page template selection screen display 620. As shown in Fig. 10, the Course Page template selection screen display provides a list of available templates 622 that can be use to create a course including, for example, the names of the templates and accompanying image. By clicking on the image, a larger picture of the template can be

shown on the screen display. The right side of the screen display 624 can show the Course Page as it would appear to a person taking the course, in the template selected by the user. In Fig. 10, "Select Template Later" has been chosen by the user so that nothing is displayed at 624.

Returning to Fig 4A, as part of the course development, the user can use a preexisting Topic Page (step 132). If the user wants to use a preexisting Topic Page, he can select that topic and upload the Topic Page content into the course he is creating (step 134). If the user selects and uploads a Topic Page or if the user decides not to use a preexisting Topic Page, he can create a new Topic Page (step 136). Creating a new Topic Page requires entering the contents of the Topic Page (step 138). The Topic Page is used to record certain information required when creating a new topic.

Fig. 11 is an embodiment of a representative Topic Page screen display 630. As shown in Fig. 11, the Topic Page can include, for example, a title 632 and style (clickable or non-clickable) 636. Administrative information regarding a specific topic may be viewed and entered by clicking on 634. This may include the owner, business unit, author, date of